



MAHOMET POLICE DEPARTMENT

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INFORMATION RELEASE

The investigation into the May 7, 2016 incident in which Mahomet Police officer Jeremy Scharlow was shot by Dracy Clint Pendleton has been completed. The Champaign County Multi-Jurisdictional Investigative Team (CCMJIT), under the supervision of Illinois State Police Master Sergeant Michael Atkinson, conducted numerous interviews, collected many items of physical evidence, reviewed in-car video recordings and radio traffic, and coordinated with law enforcement authorities in southern Illinois who were involved in the hunt for Pendleton.

The CCMJIT compilation of reports was submitted to the Champaign County State's Attorney's Office for review. On September 21, 2016, following that review, First Assistant State's Attorney Steve Ziegler issued a letter that concluded, in part, that "...Off. Scharlow acted appropriately in this matter and that there are no indications of any wrongdoing on his part."

Likewise, an internal departmental review of the incident has been conducted. That review found no violations of policy on the part of Ofc. Scharlow, Ofc. Rich, or Ofc. Bragg, the three officers directly involved in the incident.

I would like to extend my deepest appreciation to our law enforcement partners who responded to Mahomet on the night of the shooting. Officers and deputies from the Champaign County Sheriff's Office, Champaign Police Department, University of Illinois Police Department, Urbana Police Department, Thomasboro Police Department, Parkland College Police, Fisher Police Department, the Illinois State Police, and Rantoul Police Department immediately responded to the radio traffic indicating shots had been fired, near our police department, and that Officer Jeremy Scharlow had been hit. Their immediate and effective response allowed for the scene of the incident to quickly be secured, the offender to be identified, and the search for the offender to be initiated. That response was organized by Champaign County Sheriff's Office sergeants Jeff Vercler and Chris Darr. Their calm, decisive organization of the responding assets provided the basis for the investigation to follow and to the continued safety of the residents of Mahomet.

The law enforcement response included exceptional work by the METCAD dispatchers. They are valuable team members and handled a tremendous volume of radio traffic and telephone calls as a result of the shooting, providing responding officers with critical, timely information.

I would also like to commend the Mahomet officers directly involved in the incident. Ofc. Jeremy Scharlow fought off a vicious and unprovoked attack by Dracy Pendleton. Ofc. Scharlow stayed in the fight even after being shot, returning fire and wounding Pendleton. Ofc. Scharlow's radio traffic, reporting the incident, remained calm and clear.

Ofc. Ryan Rich conducted himself professionally throughout his encounter with a clearly irate Pendleton.

I would like to specifically commend Ofc. Rebecca Bragg. Her quick actions, recognizing and taking charge of the situation, directing Ofc. Scharlow to safety, assessing Ofc. Scharlow's injuries and getting him to the medical professionals for treatment were outstanding. Ofc. Bragg's radio traffic throughout the incident was amazingly calm, clear, and direct. Her experience and training were clearly evident that evening.

I would also like to thank our partners and friends at the Cornbelt Fire Protection District. We always know we are in good hands when in their care.

It is always tragic when an encounter between the police and a citizen results in personal injury, or as in this case, a death. The independent investigation by the CCMJIT clearly reveals that the responsibility for the chain of events, ultimately leading to Pendleton's death, lies solely with Dracy Clint Pendleton.

My intention is to provide as open and transparent a review of the incident as is legally possible. In that effort, I intend to post this document to the Village of Mahomet website. This document will provide a brief summary of the incident followed by a series of "SharePoint" links which will allow anyone to view the content of the links. You may copy the links and plug them into a browser. The links will include copies of the reports generated as part of the CCMJIT investigation, available in-car video, recordings of radio traffic, recordings of interviews of the involved officers, recordings of telephone calls received by METCAD, and crime scene photographs.

The reports that are attached have been redacted to remove only personal information of people involved, the names of some people who were not directly involved, and law enforcement sensitive information which cannot legally be released.

This release, with the exception of the Pendleton autopsy report, does not include any reports, or information from the southern Illinois authorities involved in the search for Pendleton after he fled Mahomet. Those reports have not been made available to the Mahomet Police Department.

Michael L. Metzler
Chief of Police
Village of Mahomet

THE RELEASE

In summary of the incident:

On May 7, 2016, at approximately 10:37 PM, Mahomet Police Officer Ryan Rich observed a truck entering town on Oak Street. Ofc. Rich's attention was drawn to the pick-up truck because it did not have illuminated tail lights. Ofc. Rich initiated a traffic stop. The truck pulled over near Walnut and Sangamon.

The driver of the truck was identified as Dracy Clint Pendleton. Mr. Pendleton became irate during the course of the traffic stop.

While Ofc. Rich was writing two warnings for the minor traffic infractions, another truck pulled up to the stop and sat and watched the officer. The second truck was a white Toyota. It was later learned that the white truck was driven by Kyle Dollahon, Pendleton's half-brother.

After Ofc. Rich issued two written warnings, one for the tail light violation and one for failing to notify the Secretary of State of a change of address, he released Pendleton from the stop. The stop ended at approximately 10:50 PM. Ofc. Rich last saw Pendleton's truck eastbound on Sangamon from Walnut, approximately three blocks from 504 S Vine.

Ofc. Rich last saw the white truck, driven by Kyle Dollahon, heading west toward Division.

Ofc. Rich's in-car, dash camera recorded the video of the stop. On viewing the interior squad car video, Ofc. Rich can be seen attaching the microphone to his uniform shirt, but the audio did not function properly.

Ofc. Jeremy Scharlow did not go to Ofc. Rich's traffic stop. At about 10:50 PM, Ofc. Scharlow left the area of the gas station at Oak and Lombard heading back to the police department for the end of his shift. As he travelled west on Oak Street, Ofc. Scharlow observed a white truck turn off of Division onto Oak Street. The truck's headlights were not illuminated. Ofc. Scharlow radioed Ofc. Rich and asked the reason for his previous traffic stop. Ofc. Rich responded the stop had been for lack of functioning tail lights. Ofc. Scharlow passed the truck, going in the opposite direction, in front of the police department. Ofc. Scharlow did a U-turn in order to address the lack of headlights. By the time Ofc. Scharlow caught up with the truck, it had pulled into the driveway at 504 S Vine.

Ofc. Scharlow stopped his squad car just south of the driveway, intending to let the driver of the truck know his headlights were not working. With the truck and driver presumably off the road and out of traffic, Ofc. Scharlow intended only to inform the driver. He did not call in a stop, nor did he activate his emergency lights, or his in-car camera.

Ofc. Scharlow saw a white male in the driveway. The male immediately began screaming epithets at Scharlow, calling him by name, and charging Ofc. Scharlow's squad car. Before Ofc. Scharlow could get out of his car, the male, later identified as Dracy Clint Pendleton, attacked

Ofc. Scharlow striking him multiple times in the head with his fists. Ofc. Scharlow was able to make his way out of his car. While fending off blows with one arm, Ofc. Scharlow pulled his Taser and deployed it in the general direction of Pendleton's chest. The Taser did not have the desired effect. Ofc. Scharlow then used a technique known as a "drive stun", trying to create distance from Pendleton by pushing the Taser into his chest.

Pendleton then pulled a small, semi-automatic pistol from his pocket, took a distinct shooter's stance and began firing. Ofc. Scharlow returned fire.

Pendleton retreated to the house at 504 S Vine, as Ofc. Scharlow sought cover behind his squad car. Ofc. Scharlow recognized he had been shot in the arm and pulled back farther behind a four-plex apartment building across the street and southwest of 504 S Vine.

Pendleton reappeared, from within the house, this time armed with an AK47 rifle. He began firing on Ofc. Scharlow's squad car.

Ofc. Rebecca Bragg was arriving for her shift and heard gun fire. She saw Ofc. Scharlow firing his gun. From her vantage point of the police department parking lot, Ofc. Bragg could not see at whom Scharlow was firing. She notified METCAD of the shots fired at approximately 10:53 PM.

Ofc. Bragg recognized that Ofc. Scharlow has been shot and took action to get him to cover and evaluate his injuries.

Ofc. Rich arrived at the police department after hearing the call of shots fired. He deployed near the police garage at Sangamon and Center, directly south of the police department parking lot.

At approximately 10:57 PM, the officers heard a loud engine from the area of 504 S Vine. They then heard a large crash and saw Ofc. Scharlow's squad car bounce as it was struck. A truck was seen leaving southbound on Vine and then turn west of Sangamon and then south on Division. As the truck passed the police department garage, Ofc. Rich recognized it was the same truck previously driven by Dracy Clint Pendleton.

Ofc. Rich ran to his squad car in an attempt to go after the truck. He was not able to regain visual contact with the truck.

REPORTS

Mahomet Police = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=Q73EhZ84xPSzBPt6qvVrHftA2jJMM31cscliCBJ4ao4%3d&docid=015c6211d75ed4faf994fd9bf94fde691&rev=1

IL State Police = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=RJiuZ60NOFYiJIQyaVikTJvfTUO7vE%2fUmRAmTsq7lko%3d&docid=0793b60327e83484fb00e27fac6ea451a&rev=1

Champaign County Sheriff = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=kzROhBbhmPGOlOnA4cIIAtjgENOuN5YgiMSmjWmZziA%3d&docid=050fb307e3c164e278a5126a8fdc201a5&rev=1

Urbana Police = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=B1A5B8QppOSrliag4PqgfqK2w2Ki4Zv%2bVKHotNDI6To%3d&docid=019d8ad7fe83f4ebf9f49f62943a42717&rev=1

Champaign Police = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=d5h4yCo3nklpe4e1TW9Nno3U3OGc2Ki81blbiWNXev8%3d&docid=0ef3539cc637146f98e9a020cde04452e&rev=1

IL State Police CSI = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=iQZeZ%2f8fjmbdN2lrQkvV13Ql6U6vsXb%2fJebfH9Hh1Q%3d&docid=05cb83ef7d7e647bfa5c8e400dc5319ed&rev=1

Autopsy = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=R6Ja%2f%2bis2kLhSNd5LjFadulhLTKmi6bNwF%2bDga7SLhc%3d&docid=0f0dbf7e65d3a4216a16dfed023b2b780&rev=1

CRIME SCENE PHOTOS

CSI Crime Scene = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=vumDdONffqfrCDW%2bX2CvSd284A4AekQ6HOHt0SNOxM4%3d&docid=0a96ad6ab91d94bf29bab4ff5626cfe1f&rev=1

Cartridge Recovery = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=rEMr6iBolxkPCOlwhdye%2bsHOMQ7oXfpvhlHzVDDABQ%3d&docid=013838ff37e3745e4bf6b5874d11e8a65&rev=1

VIDEO

Traffic stop = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=bRyq6iJhAiz0rsUb8ZD96uEEXFnNQ8UqmoMYGplltOw%3d&docid=02f5fd11013b4472688ff444230ffb7ef&rev=1

Traffic Stop (Interior Camera) = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=TP1Hlr6VeiE3KS4IWCmyYS5MUu13ItqNd2FLijEyAs%3d&docid=0986cdc4b5cfd4e92a3573c41640186dd&rev=1

Ofc Bragg Cam 1 2311-2345 = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=W54%2fOuwbNnMZDoXi%2f%2bLQ9DERWV86f7wkGifaOJvou74%3d&docid=0495e1e9a78804b3a9be75b0e20247ade&rev=1

INTERVIEWS

Jeremy Scharlow 5-13-16 = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=5JZ6fR5vhnWPd0TRx70iCkvXSE%2b1Cpq10JpeYL6KuW8%3d&docid=0d92a29e2a09845218f760c688965e13d&rev=1

Jeremy Scharlow 5-19-16 = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=XliwCHZtBLaBefUtWvSiV3zQKAfmUYIhwVxLOhM0bWg%3d&docid=0afc7879c54674d01832342c781569037&rev=1

Rebecca Bragg 5-8-16 = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=c3sl3y9tIG7wRX%2fzf4pEV1mVsQCBL9e2zH4xoyo6sMg%3d&docid=055c67475b7d14dafa50b7dff35de8e00&rev=1

Ryan Rich 5-8-16 = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=3kaObcYwrru1wvTYtNKJYs9I%2blszYH2sQYplaitr73U%3d&docid=010d4b8fa8a284c958296c9c9af29d113&rev=1

Evelyn Pendleton 5-11-16 = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=0tOWNZqcJwAHoialB8VCtWNC9IDvPIj2Y%2fXL6M3BKlY%3d&docid=0f553d2dcecb84e2d9b053629aecf6e6e&rev=1

METCAD

All Phone Calls = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=V9MJDX2cE%2beqB2wHBFECaRd0hhkIM5LNtg2EotfsQF0%3d&docid=086175a2fe552475daa5b4a8d7b6277ee&rev=1

Incident 2 Preamble = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=6ogAgukOoSnbTtuLVj0EDuuONJSSbFUM6mqL9nPV5tM%3d&docid=04bd0ff28081942049e5cb76b106a553a&rev=1

Patrol 2 2237-2250 1st Traffic Stop = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=IQeFVhPtcqBGhVSlvvZxpa%2btu3kcVt7RKXt%2bmktnC3g%3d&docid=047c60e29600e416083c9439df873c1a8&rev=1

Patrol 2 2250 Part 1 = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=VBO1Lg89KHtlvuYaBUr%2f5KprZrhBiqpjOFkqa6Bhu%2fs%3d&docid=0631e59f5ec064553b2b182bc83d47447&rev=1

Patrol 2 2250 Part 2= https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=OvyohlQxk%2f%2bKzyvyFI6Z1utfRwphOL9f888YG%2f%2fm00l%3d&docid=037ccb05b327544aa947e4555eae8b84&rev=1

STATE’S ATTORNEY

State’s Attorney Letter = https://mahometpolicedepartment-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mcsadmin_police_mahomet-il_gov/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=qwjLW0xA5%2buwneSadcfxqhfsJYZHx5%2bhEnZxtbHHuYA%3d&docid=00044f00a3b7344e5a1b0d5d2f81fe546&rev=1